

## Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, May 10, 1899, with transcript

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL TO MABEL (Hubbard) BELL Beinn Bhreagh, C. B.  
Wednesday, May 10, 1899. Notes.

Mr. Kennedy reports average price of cheese (from cow's milk) about 10 cents per pound.  
Price of Roquefort cheese (from ewe's milk) about 75 cents per pound.

Ask Mr. McCurdy to get prices on ordinary cheese and Roquefort cheese.

A few days ago Mr. Kennedy made, from 10 pounds of cow's milk, one pound of cheese.

Today he made, from 10 pounds of ewe's milk, 2 pounds of cheese.

10 pounds cow's milk yields 1 pound cheese — value \$.10 to \$.15. 10 pounds ewe's milk yields 2 pounds cheese — value \$1.50!!

Query. What are the wholesale and retail prices of ordinary cheese — and Roquefort cheese. What do the makers get?

AGB.

At present 6 ewes in milking flock yield 4 pounds of milk per day. Yield will probably be doubled when grass is out. But taking this as a minimum for calculation we have one-half pound of milk per ewe per day. Milking season will surely last for three months, say 90 days. Then each ewe should yield 45 pounds of milk in the season — and this should yield 9 pounds of cheese.

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9 pounds of cheese at 10 cents per pound — \$0.90

“ “ “ “ 20 “ “ “ \$1.80

“ “ “ “ 30 “ “ “ \$2.70

“ “ “ “ 40 “ “ “ \$3.60

“ “ “ “ 50 “ “ “ \$4.50

“ “ “ “ 60 “ “ “ \$5.40

“ “ “ “ 70 “ “ “ \$6.30

“ “ “ “ 75 “ “ “ \$6.75

Besides the cheese there would be about 36 pounds of whey suitable for feeding pigs — and wool to about the value of \$1.00. Also — value of the lamb.

Looks as if there might be considerable profit in sheep. They cost little to keep — and could be trained to come and be milked — like cows and goats.

Will soon have statistics of amount of milk yielded daily.

AGB.